

McCOLLUM's Keep Community Service Local Act.

At a time when Americans, particularly our young people, report feeling evermore disconnected from their government, programs like national service and civics education are crucial in helping to repair the fabric of our democracy.

Let's not let this decision stand. Let's see it turned around. Keep these offices open.

COMMENDING THE TOXIC 18 GROUP

(Mr. MAST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great group who has been documenting something tragic going on in our community, the Toxic 18 group on the Treasure Coast of Florida.

The administrators and the members of Toxic 18 have dedicated countless volunteer hours to taking pictures, videos, and looking at the destruction which has included dead animals, sickness, destroyed environment, and businesses being forced to close across the Treasure Coast, all as a result of the harmful algal blooms going on in our area.

Their administrators, people who I have had the chance to get to know, like Cyndi Lenz, Jennie Pawlowsky, Cristina Maldonado, Kim Streiber, and Troy Brown have done an outstanding job, and because of their work, I am very optimistic for a great 2019 and future beyond that because of the work they have already done in 2018 and before.

VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN CHURCHES

(Mr. LEWIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express a sense of righteous indignation about the violence peaceful people of faith must now concern themselves with in places of worship all over America.

We have come to the point in this Nation where we can no longer attend church or go to the synagogue or the mosque without fearing the worst. How many lives must we lose before we decide there is not any room in America for hate?

Martin Luther King, Jr., once said: "Hate is too heavy a burden to bear." We must bring an end to wanton gun violence before it robs this Nation of its very soul.

The people in my district pray without ceasing for the victims of the Poway shooting.

As leaders of this Nation, let's commit ourselves today to bring this violence to an end here and now.

CONGRATULATING RUDY DORY

(Mr. WALDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Rudy Dory who is a great Oregonian and this year's recipient of the National Grocers Association's Clarence G. Adamy Great American Award.

Established in 1982, this award is presented to an individual or a company whose leadership in the food industry best exemplifies active and effective participation in government relations as a citizen and industry representative.

Rudy Dory is the executive chairman of Newport Avenue Market, which is an employee-owned, independent grocery store in Bend, Oregon, in my district, and I had the pleasure to get a full tour from Rudy of Newport Avenue Market in Bend just last August.

He has been in the grocery industry for 40 years. He has helped Newport Avenue Market through its migration from a traditional store to the award-winning, employee-owned, specialty grocery store it is today.

Rudy is a tireless advocate of the independent supermarket industry and advocates in support of a public policy agenda that benefits Main Street grocers throughout the Nation.

Local grocers like Rudy help job growth, support Oregon's producers, and help feed our communities.

So please join me in congratulating Rudy Dory on receiving this prestigious award, and working on behalf of not only Newport Avenue Market, but for all businesses and independent grocers across the country.

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RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH MEDIA FIRE COMPANY

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, in Pennsylvania, volunteer fire departments have long played a central role in the life of our towns and boroughs. In recent years, changing demographics and funding issues have seriously impacted the volunteer fire company tradition. However, it has also had one benefit of spurring recruitment of first responders from nontraditional quarters.

I want to take a minute to acknowledge the history made by two volunteers at the South Media Fire Company just last week. When an emergency call from a local middle school came in at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, Ellen Yarborough, a schoolteacher, and Dora Giannakarios Preston, a local business woman, put their day jobs on hold to answer the call, unaware that they were making history. This was the first time in the 100-year history of the firehouse that an all-female crew had handled an emergency call.

To Ellen, Dora, the South Media Fire Company, and all of our volunteer firefighters, thank you for your service and for answering the call of duty to keep us safe.

GA-12 NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL PARTICIPANTS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, over this past weekend the 2019 National Science Bowl finals took place down the road in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

I am proud to rise here this evening to congratulate Stallings Island Middle School and Lakeside High School—both located in Georgia's 12th district—for their students' stellar performance in this year's competition.

The path to the finals is no easy task. With over 1,000 high schools and nearly 650 middle schools participating in the regional tournaments nationwide, these Georgia-12 students worked hard to advance to the finals and compete at the national level. The students' brilliance solving technical problems and answering questions about all branches of science and math is truly incredible.

I would like to thank and congratulate the educators, coaches, and especially the bright young students of Stallings Island Middle School and Lakeside High School who made this tremendous run possible.

Georgia-12 is certainly proud, and we look forward to cheering them on again next year.

RECOGNIZING CECIL SMITH OF SOUTH JERSEY

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to speak about an outstanding member of south Jersey.

Cecil Smith of Salem County has served south Jersey's community for many years as the editor of the South Jersey Times south edition, founder of The Partners of Salem County program, and most recently as executive director of the Salem County College Foundation. The Partners of Salem County program contributes to numerous local community and educational programs and has raised more than \$1 million in scholarship funds.

Mrs. Smith has also served on several boards for local organizations that serve and help our entire community. Her many achievements were recently recognized at the 18th Annual Educational Foundation Leadership Recognition and Scholarship Dinner.

Her community involvement over the years has benefited many, and for this south Jersey is honored to call Cecil Smith a very special member of our community.